THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SHATRUGHAN SINHA): (a) and (b) There is no such thing as synthetic milk. However, sometimes milk may be adulterated by addition of chemical substances. As per information received from states it does not appear to be any rise.

(c) Sale of milk and milk products containing substances not found in milk except as prescribed in the PFA Rules, is already prohibited under the provisions of the PFA Act, 1954. All State Governments have been repeatedly requested to take necessary action to keep strict vigil on the quality of milk particularly for presence of chemical substances.

Research on weed Marmijua

1267. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have conducted any research on the medical qualities of the weed Marmijua; and

(b) if so, the details of the research?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) Council of Scientific and Industrial Research and Central Council for Research in Ayurveda and Siddha have informed that they have no such information.

News Item "Drugs Expired before Date"

1268. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned, "Drugs expired before date", which appeared in the 'Hindustan Times', dated the 24th October, 2002;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereon;

(c) the steps Government propose to take to ensure that Drug testing is done in a regular manner by a Drug Inspector in every State; and

(d) whether Government propose to amend the rules in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA); (a) Yes Sir.